

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrostatic latent-image developing toner comprising:

a core particle and a shell layer formed on an outer portion thereof,

wherein the shell layer comprises a crystalline polyester resin having a softening point from 60 to 120°C at 70 to 100 % by weight of the entire shell-layer constituent resin.

2. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the shell layer further comprises an amorphous polyester resin having a softening point from 80 to 130°C.

3. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the resin contained in the core particle is a polyester resin having a softening point from 80 to 130°C.

4. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the shell layer is formed by allowing at least crystalline polyester resin particles to adhere/fuse to the core particle.

5. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner particles contain a colorant in a range from 3 to 15 % by weight.

6. The toner according to claim 1, wherein an intermediate layer containing a wax is formed between the core particle and the shell layer.

7. The toner according to claim 6, wherein the wax forming the intermediate layer has a softening point that is lower than the softening point of the crystalline polyester resin forming the shell layer.

8. The toner according to claim 6, wherein the crystalline polyester resin forming the shell layer has a softening point that is lower than the softening point of the resin forming the core particle.

9. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the core particle comprises a wax having a polar group and a colorant.

10. The toner according to claim 9, wherein the wax having a polar group comprises a wax having a softening point that is lower than that of the crystalline polyester resin.

11. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the core particle comprises a wax having no polar group.

12. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner particle contain a wax in a range from 3 to 50 % by weight.

13. The toner according to claim 9, wherein the wax having a polar group has a softening point in a range from 50 to 120°C.

14. The toner according to claim 11, wherein the wax having no polar group is an olefin-based wax having a softening point in a range from 70 to 130°C.

15. The toner according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the core particle and the shell layer contains a urea-modified polyester resin.

16. The toner according to claim 15, wherein the urea-modified polyester resin is contained in the shell layer, with a content thereof being set from 2 to 40 % by weight with respect to the entire resin forming the shell layer.

17. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner

particles have an average degree of roundness from 0.930 to 0.995.

18. An image-forming method, comprising:
forming an electrostatic latent image on a photosensitive member;
forming a toner image by developing the electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive member;
transferring the toner image onto a recording medium;
and
fixing the toner image on the recording medium,
wherein the toner comprises a toner particle prepared by forming a shell layer on the surface of the core particle and the shell layer comprises a crystalline polyester resin having a softening point from 60 to 120°C at 70 to 100 % by weight of the entire shell-layer constituent resin.

19. The image-forming method according to claim 18, wherein simultaneously with a transferring process of the toner image onto the recording medium, a fixing process is carried out.

20. The image-forming method according to claim 19, wherein the transferring process of the toner image onto a recording medium comprises the steps of:

transferring a toner image on the photosensitive member to an intermediate transferring member; and

transferring the toner image on the intermediate transferring member to a recording medium, and

simultaneously with the transferring process of the toner image from the intermediate transferring member to

the recording medium, a fixing process is carried out.